

REMARKS

Claims 1-104 are pending in the application. Claims 3-104 have been withdrawn from consideration, leaving independent claim 1 and dependent claim 2 under consideration.

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Danielson (WO 94/19736) in view of Jacobsen (U.S. Patent No. 6,232,937). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because neither Danielson, Jacobsen, nor any proper combination of the two describes or suggests using a display portion in conjunction with a set of operation keys that include LEDs that display an image, with the display portion including at least one gate signal line, at least one source signal line crossing the at least one gate signal line, and at least one active element electrically connected to the at least one gate signal line and the at least one source signal line, and with the direction of the image displayed by the LEDs of the operation keys being switchable between a first orientation and a second orientation.

While the action asserts that Danielson includes an active element 15, this is not the case. Rather, element 15 is a liquid crystal display that is backlit in some implementations. See Danielson at page 12, line 28 to page 13, line 2. In addition, though Danielson indicates that the display 15 includes an active display area 19 (see page 13, lines 16-34), this statement references the portion of the display that is used. Danielson nowhere indicates that the liquid crystal display includes active elements.

Moreover, contrary to the assertions in the action, Figs. 2 and 3 of Danielson do not show that an image displayed by the operation keys may be switched between first and second orientations. Indeed, Figs. 2 and 3 of Danielson do not even describe or suggest having the operation keys display an image. Rather, Figs. 2 and 3 show that the perceived orientation of the operation keys may be adjusted by changing the orientation of a template 43 that is applied to the region surrounding the operation keys. See page 17, line 5 to page 19, line 3. As such, since Danielson does not even describe or suggest having the operation keys display an image, one of ordinary skill in the art would have had no motivation to incorporate Jacobsen's LED matrix into the operation keys of Danielson's system.

For at least these reasons, the rejection of claims 1 and 2 should be withdrawn.

Applicant : Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
Serial No. : 09/811,837
Filed : March 20, 2001
Page : 25 of 25

Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-022001 / US4790

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is a \$110 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 8, 2004



John F. Hayden
Reg. No. 37,640

Customer No. 26171
Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40251955.doc